

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5300
ANSWERED ON:06.04.2017
Air India Flight Delays
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India passengers were the worst hit in the country in July by flight delays of more than two hours owing to technical reasons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this issue can be addressed effectively only if older aircrafts are replaced;
- (d) if so, the details of the older aircrafts being used by Air India as of now; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

- (a) & (b) : Total 99 flights were delayed by more than two hours owing to technical reasons from 01.07.2016 to 31.07.2016.;
- ;
- (c) : The Technical Delays are not necessarily attributed to age of the aircraft. ;
- ;
- (d) : The number of operating older fleet:

B747-400- 4 (Age 20.3 to 23.2 years)

A320 - 8 (Age 22.3 to 27.8 years);

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(e) : Aircraft is considered airworthy provided the maintenance is as per approved schedule/ program and all mandatory modifications/ Inspections stipulated by the DGCA/ Vendor/ Aircraft manufacturer as well as the regulatory authorities of the aircraft manufacturing country is carried out. The economic design goal for every type of aircraft is decided by the manufacturers/ regulatory authorities of the State of manufacturers. Beyond this, if the aircraft has to be kept in airworthy condition, the operators are required to carry out life development modifications/ airworthiness inspections/ airworthiness directives etc. as recommended by the manufacturers/ regulatory authorities of the State of manufacturers. The above inspections are made mandatory by DGCA also. All the aircraft in Air India fleet are maintained to the highest airworthiness standards and meet all the requirements of the regulatory authorities. Air India Limited has started the process of replacing the older aircraft in a phased manner.